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10 March 1969

NRO DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Photographic Reconnaissance of Communist China

1. In view of the proposal for U-2 overflight of Communist China to be considered at the next 303 Committee meeting, I am attaching a copy of a draft prepared for COMIREX consideration concerning the status of photographic reconnaissance of Communist China.

2. Stated simply, our case is that, while we have given top priority to satellite coverage of China and while we have acquired a considerable amount of satellite coverage of Chinese Communist targets, we have not been able to attain the level of coverage considered desirable. The only way that we can see that such coverage can be obtained is by a continuing low key program for overflight of China by manned aircraft or drones to supplement satellite coverage.

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Attachment

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